

Northwest Geographic Area Coordination Center

Predictive Services

Summer 2015

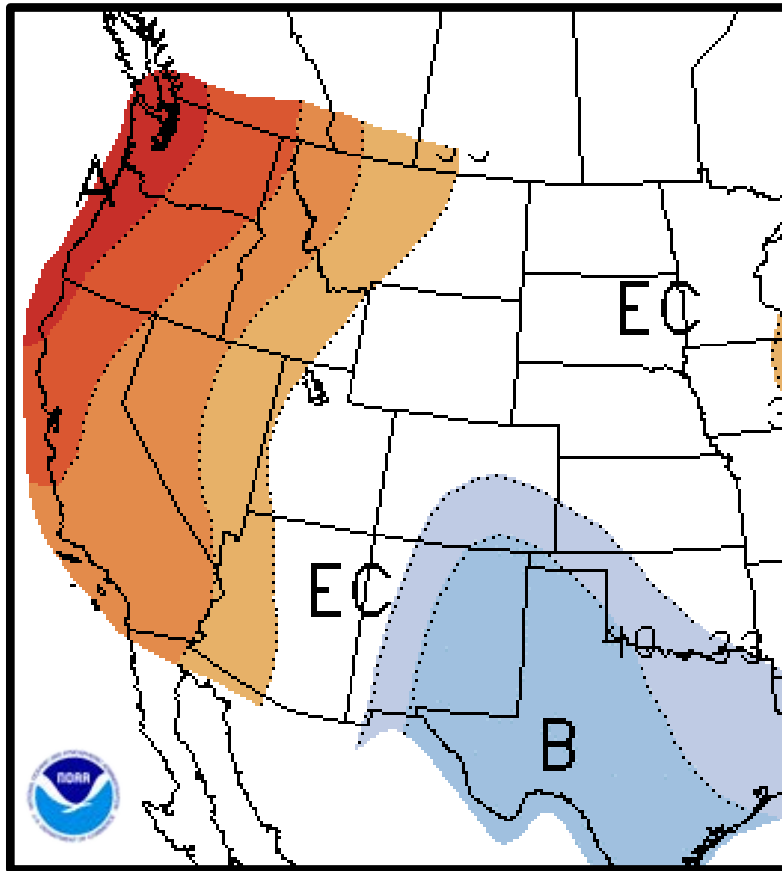
Climate and Significant Fire Potential Outlook

Monday June 1st 2015

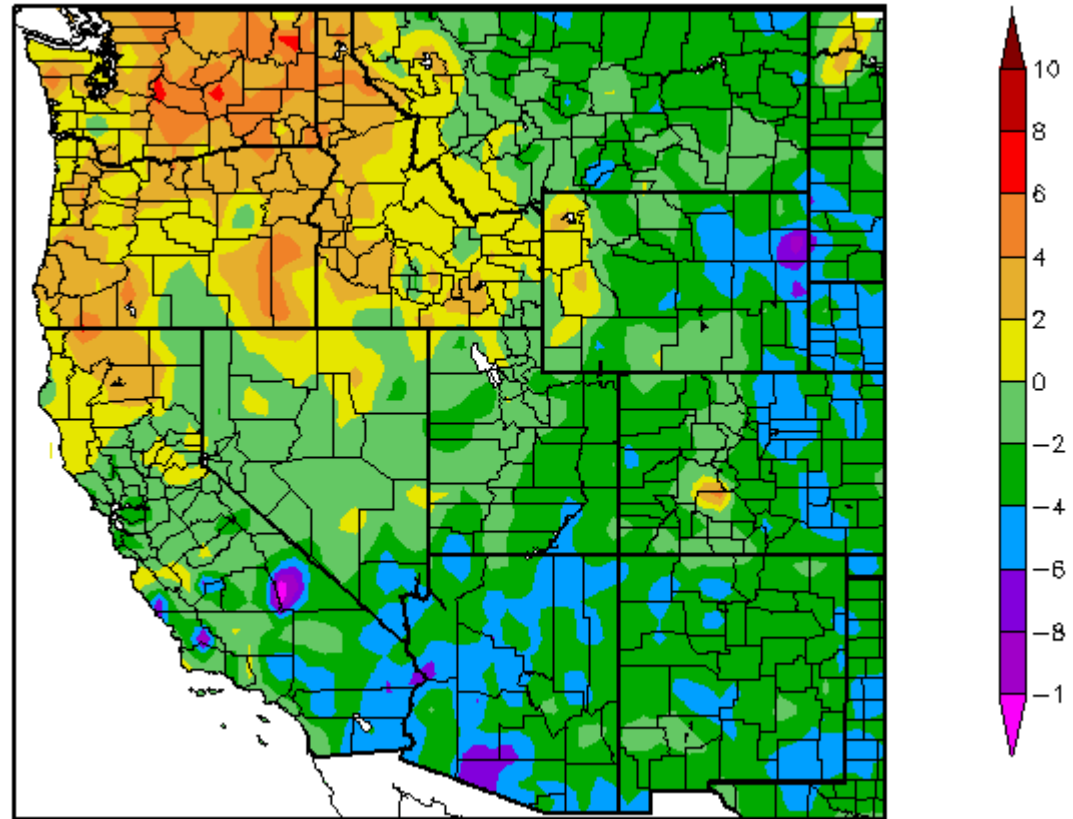


Climate Outlook verification:

Temperature May 2015



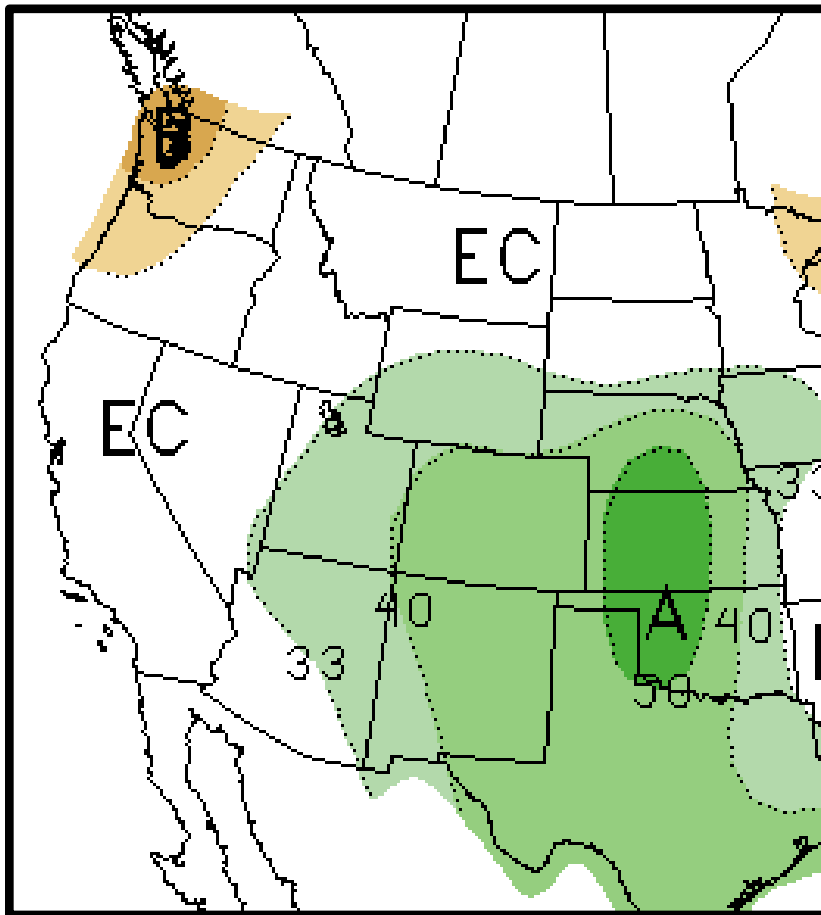
**CPC Temperature Outlook
for May 2015**
(issued April 30th 2015)



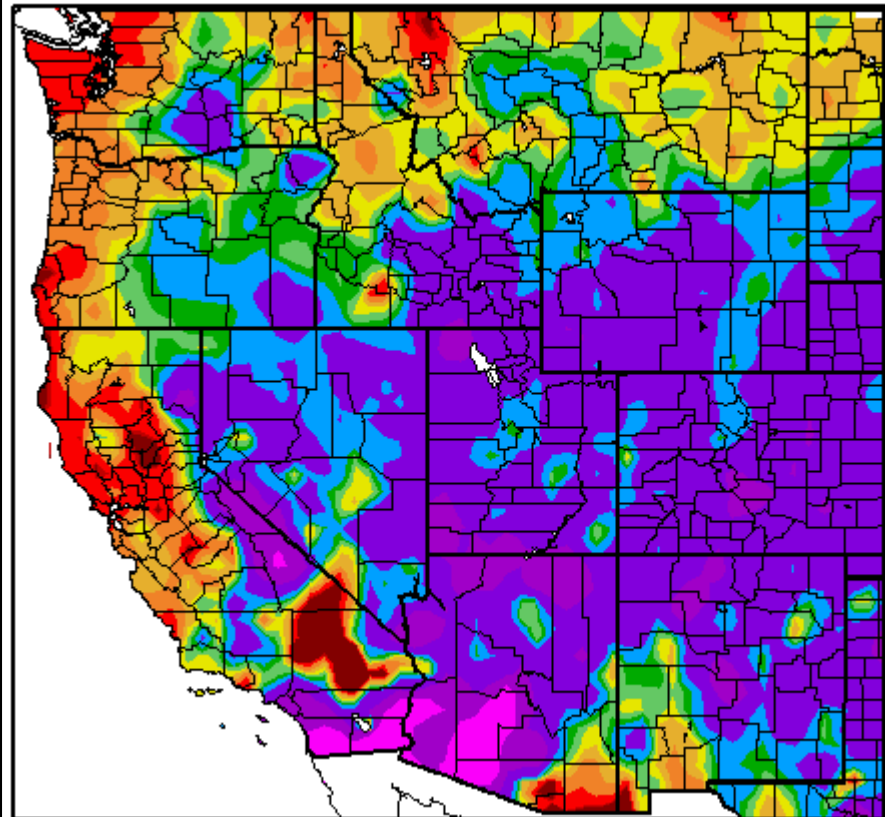
**Temperatures actually
observed in May 2015**
(departure from normal)

Climate Outlook verification:

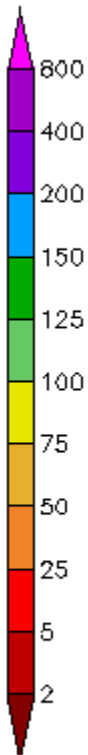
Precipitation May 2015



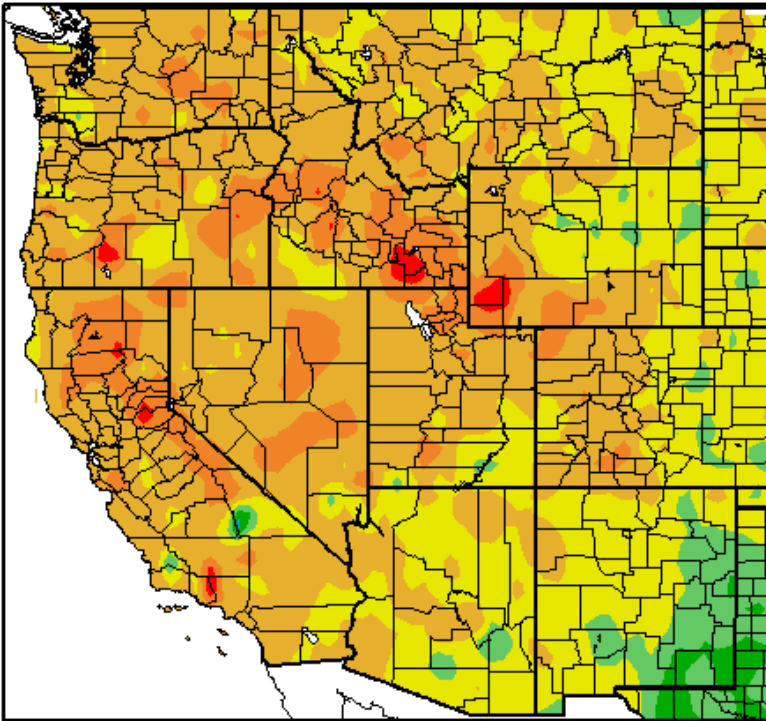
**CPC Precipitation Outlook
for May 2015**
(issued April 30th 2015)



**Precipitation actually
observed in May 2015**
(percentage of normal)

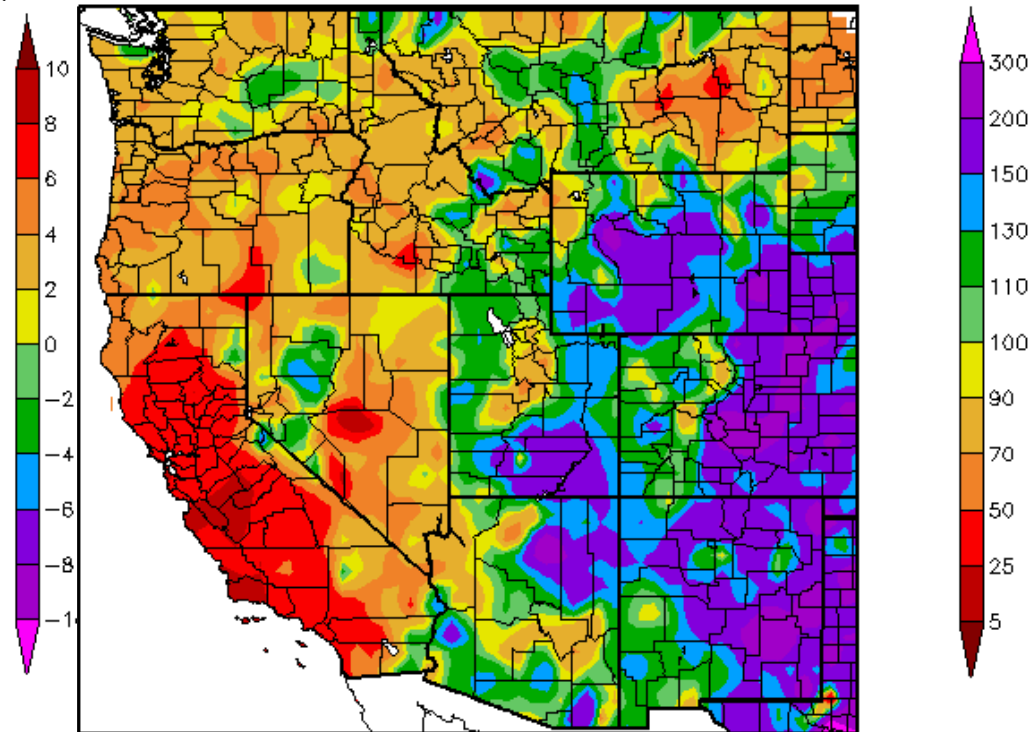


Climate Summary since Jan 1st 2015:



Temperature

(departure from normal)



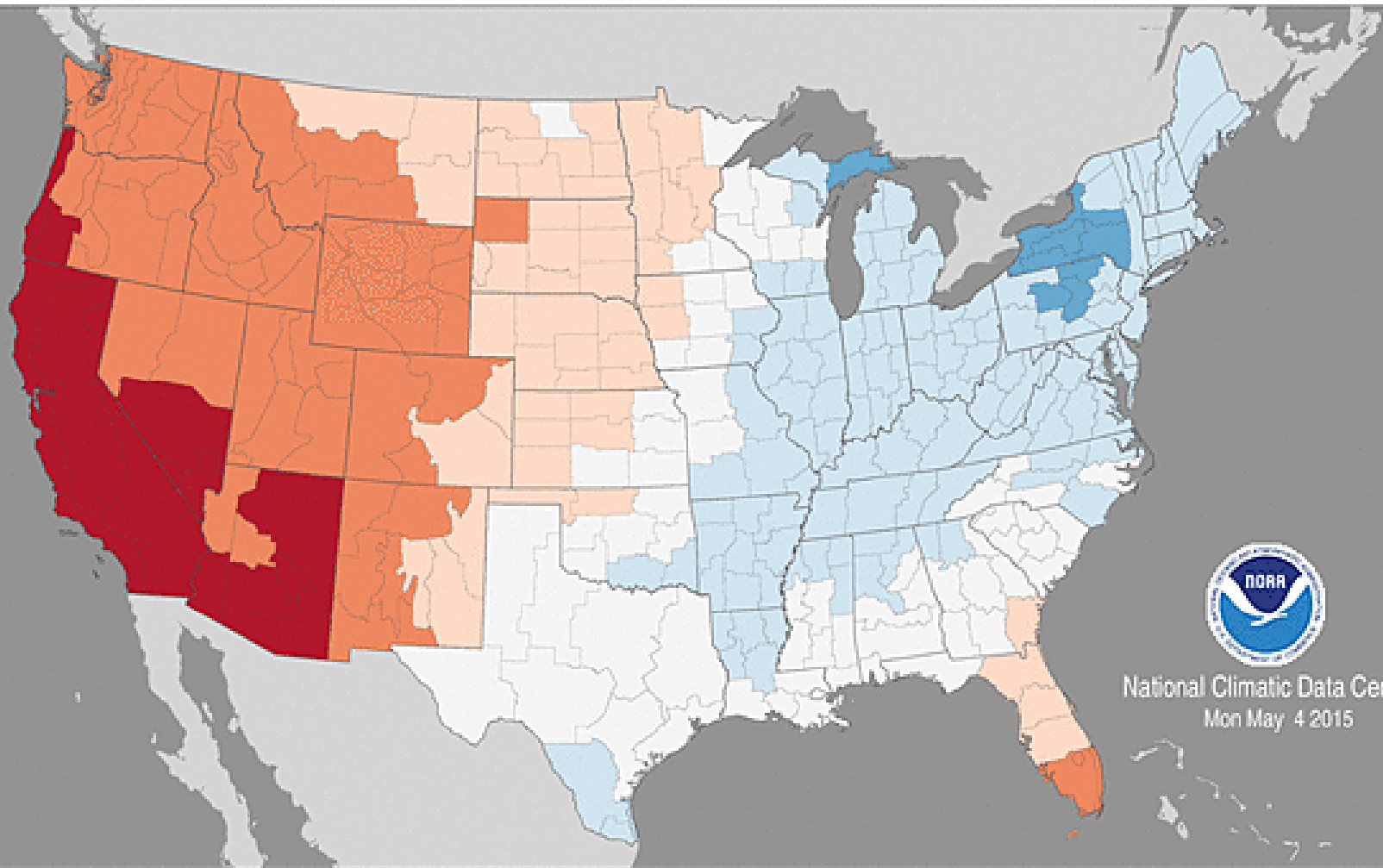
Precipitation

(percentage of normal)

Divisional Average Temperature Ranks

November 2014–April 2015

Period: 1895–2015

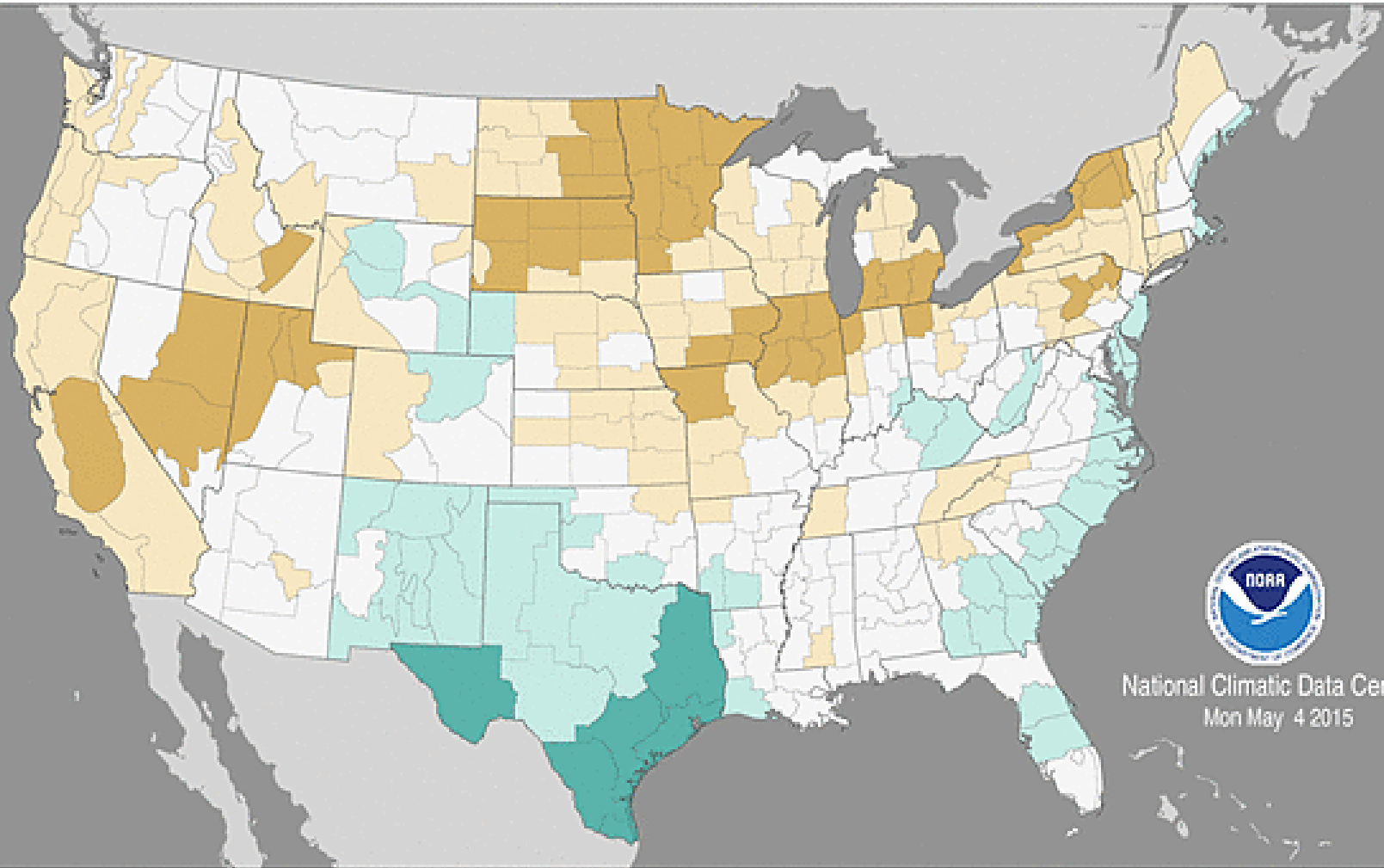


National Climatic Data Center
Mon May 4 2015

Divisional Precipitation Ranks

November 2014–April 2015

Period: 1895–2015



National Climatic Data Center

Mon May 4 2015



Record
Driest



Much
Below
Average



Below
Average



Near
Average



Above
Average



Much
Above
Average



Record
Wettest

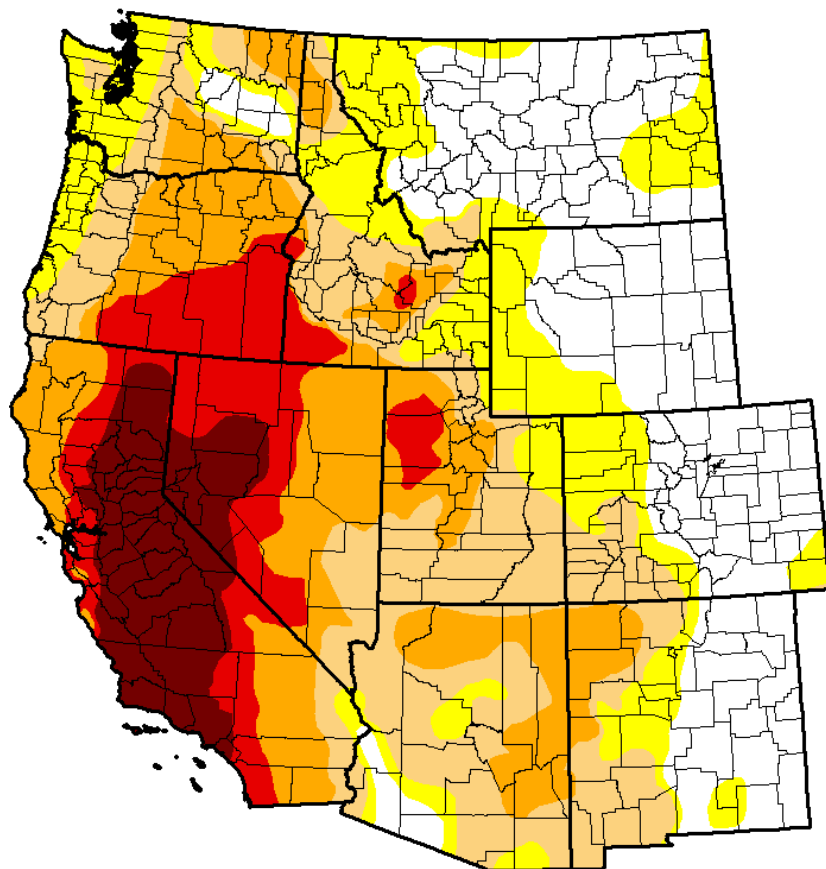
U.S. Drought Monitor

West

May 26, 2015

(Released Thursday May 28, 2015)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Statistics type: ☒ Traditional (D0-D4, D1-D4, etc.) ☐ Categorical (D0, D1, etc.)

Drought Condition (Percent Area):



Week	Date	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2015-05-26	25.37	74.63	57.03	35.92	17.59	7.94
Last Week	2015-05-19	23.49	76.51	60.69	36.57	17.59	7.95
3 Months Ago	2015-02-24	30.07	69.93	59.91	31.06	17.38	7.04
Start of Calendar Year	2014-12-30	34.76	65.24	54.48	33.50	18.68	5.40
Start of Water Year	2014-09-30	31.48	68.52	55.57	35.65	19.95	8.90
One Year Ago	2014-05-27	31.18	68.82	60.38	47.20	20.21	4.31

Population Affected by Drought: **53,571,264**

[View More Statistics](#)

Intensity:

 D0 - Abnormally Dry
 D1 - Moderate Drought
 D2 - Severe Drought

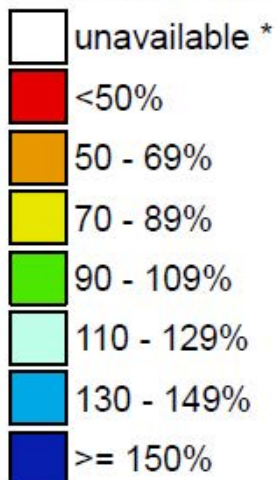
 D3 - Extreme Drought
 D4 - Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying [text summary](#) for forecast statements.

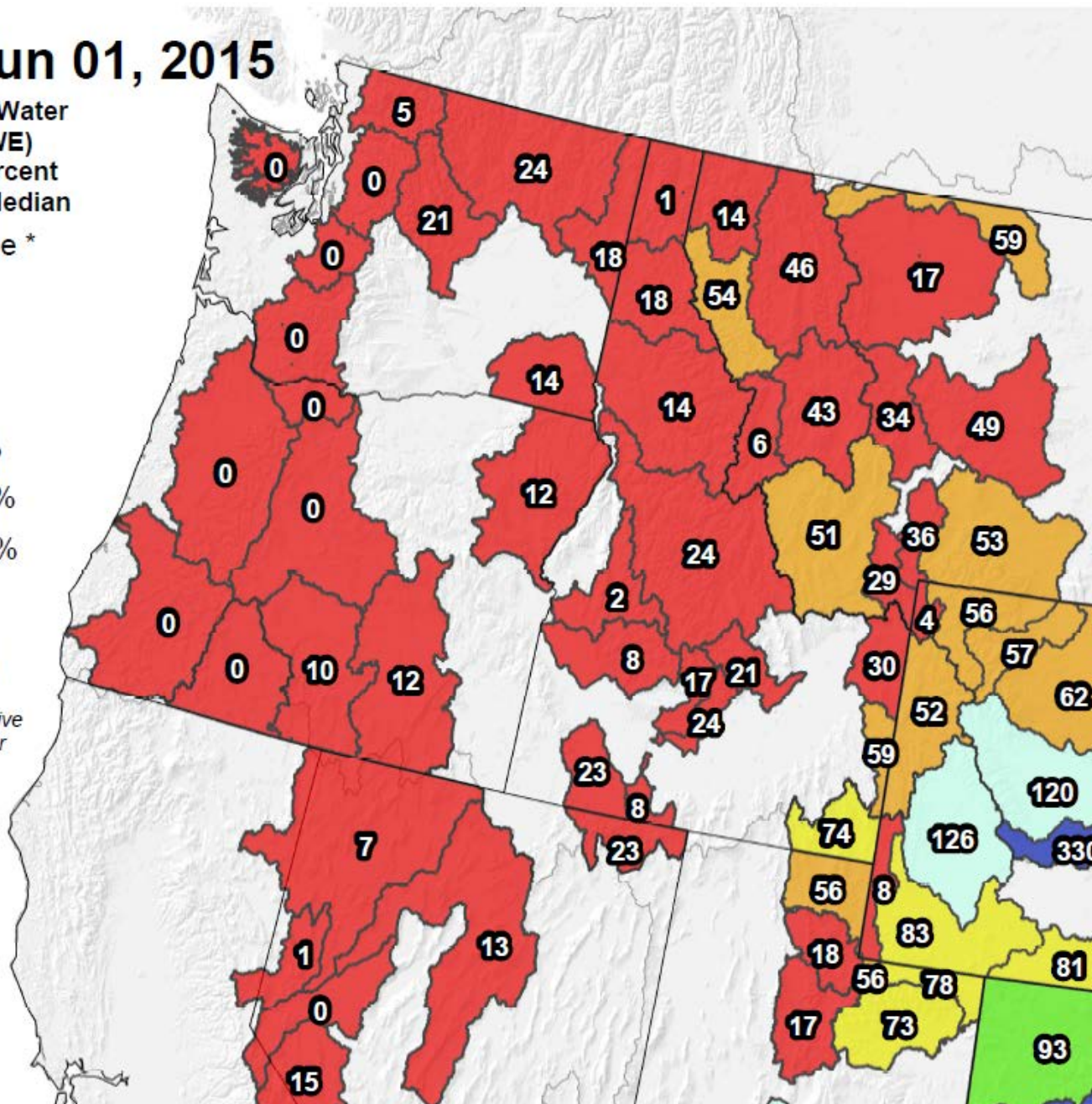
Westwide SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) % of Normal

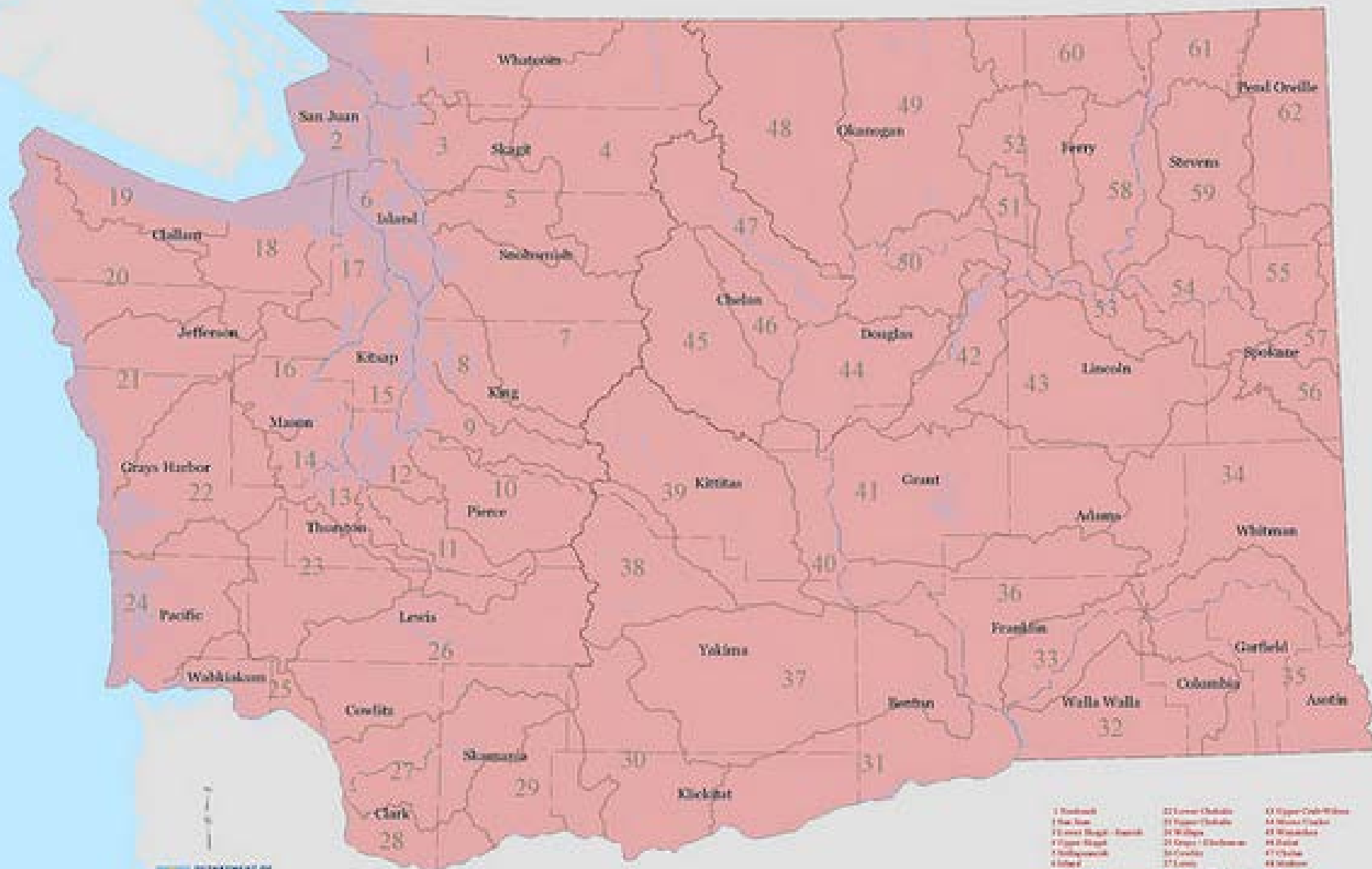
Jun 01, 2015

Current Snow Water
Equivalent (SWE)
Basin-wide Percent
of 1981-2010 Median



* Data unavailable
at time of posting
or measurement
is not representative
at this time of year





THE WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
 1000 4TH AVENUE, SUITE 1000
 SEATTLE, WA 98101-3145
 (206) 463-3000
 www.ecology.wa.gov

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Current Conditions: Governor declares statewide drought emergency

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1 Bonanza | 22 Lower Chelan | 43 Upper Cowlitz |
| 2 San Juan | 23 Upper Chelan | 44 Lower Cowlitz |
| 3 Skagit | 24 Upper Skagit | 45 Wenatchee |
| 4 Island | 25 Upper Skagit - Bonanza | 46 Bonanza |
| 5 Neah-Hoh | 26 Upper Skagit - Chelan | 47 Chelan |
| 6 Chelan | 27 Lower Skagit | 48 Spokane |
| 7 Douglas | 28 Chelan - Walla Walla | 49 Chelan |
| 8 Grant | 29 Walla Walla - Yakima | 50 Chelan |
| 9 Kittitas | 30 Walla Walla - Yakima | 51 Chelan |
| 10 Yakima | 31 Walla Walla - Yakima | 52 Chelan |
| 11 Benton | 32 Walla Walla - Yakima | 53 Chelan |
| 12 Franklin | 33 Walla Walla - Yakima | 54 Chelan |
| 13 Walla Walla | 34 Walla Walla - Yakima | 55 Chelan |
| 14 Columbia | 35 Walla Walla - Yakima | 56 Chelan |
| 15 Garfield | 36 Walla Walla - Yakima | 57 Chelan |
| 16 Asotin | 37 Walla Walla - Yakima | 58 Chelan |
| 17 Whitman | 38 Walla Walla - Yakima | 59 Chelan |
| 18 Lincoln | 39 Walla Walla - Yakima | 60 Chelan |
| 19 Spokane | 40 Walla Walla - Yakima | 61 Chelan |
| 20 Stevens | 41 Walla Walla - Yakima | 62 Chelan |
| 21 Ferry | 42 Walla Walla - Yakima | |

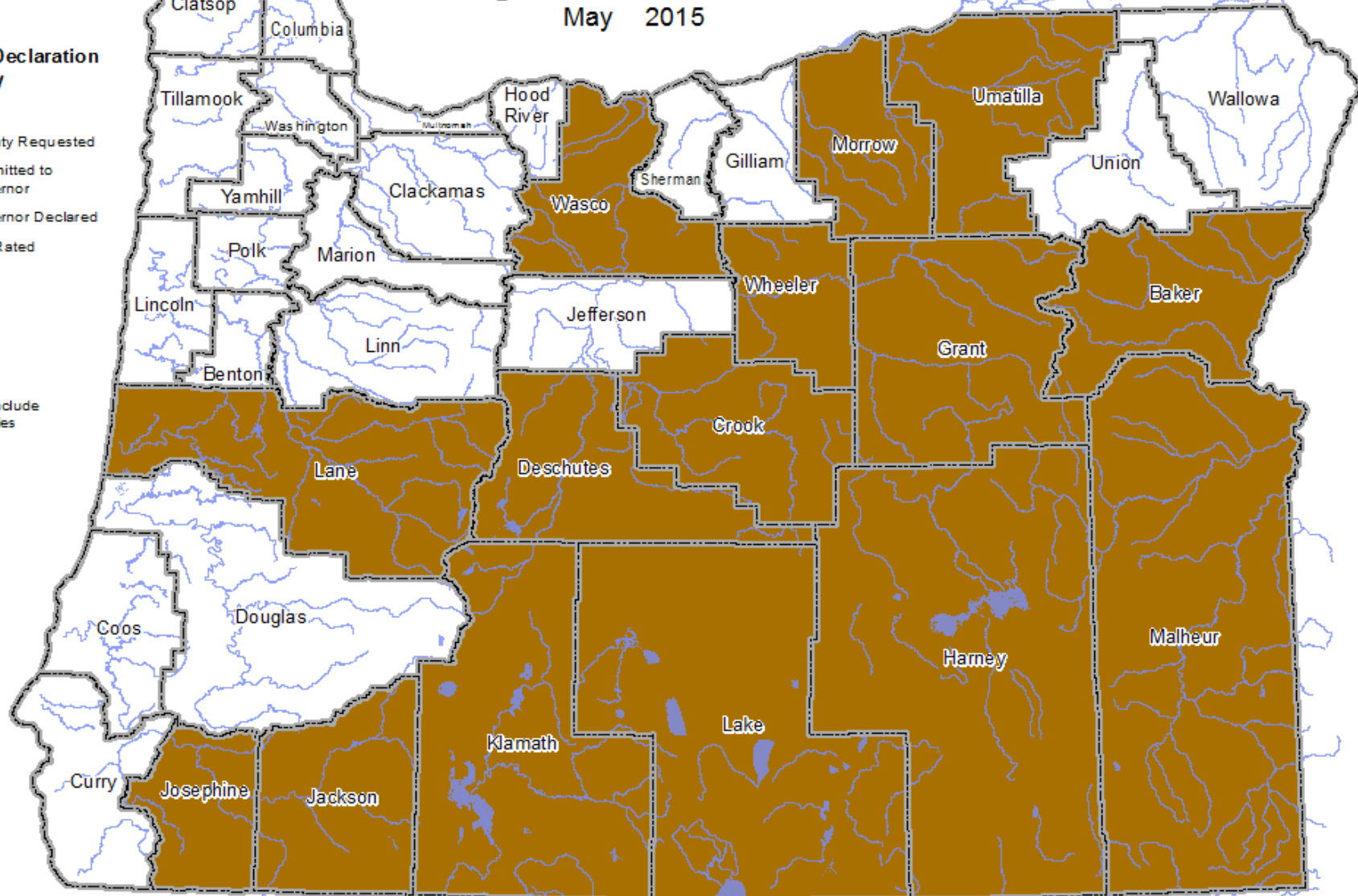
Oregon's Drought Council* Drought Declaration Status May 2015

Drought Declaration by County

Status

-  County Requested
-  Submitted to Governor
-  Governor Declared
-  Not Rated

*Members Include
State Agencies



Oregon Water Resources Department
725 Summer St. NE Suite A
Salem, OR 97301
<http://www.wrd.state.or.us/>

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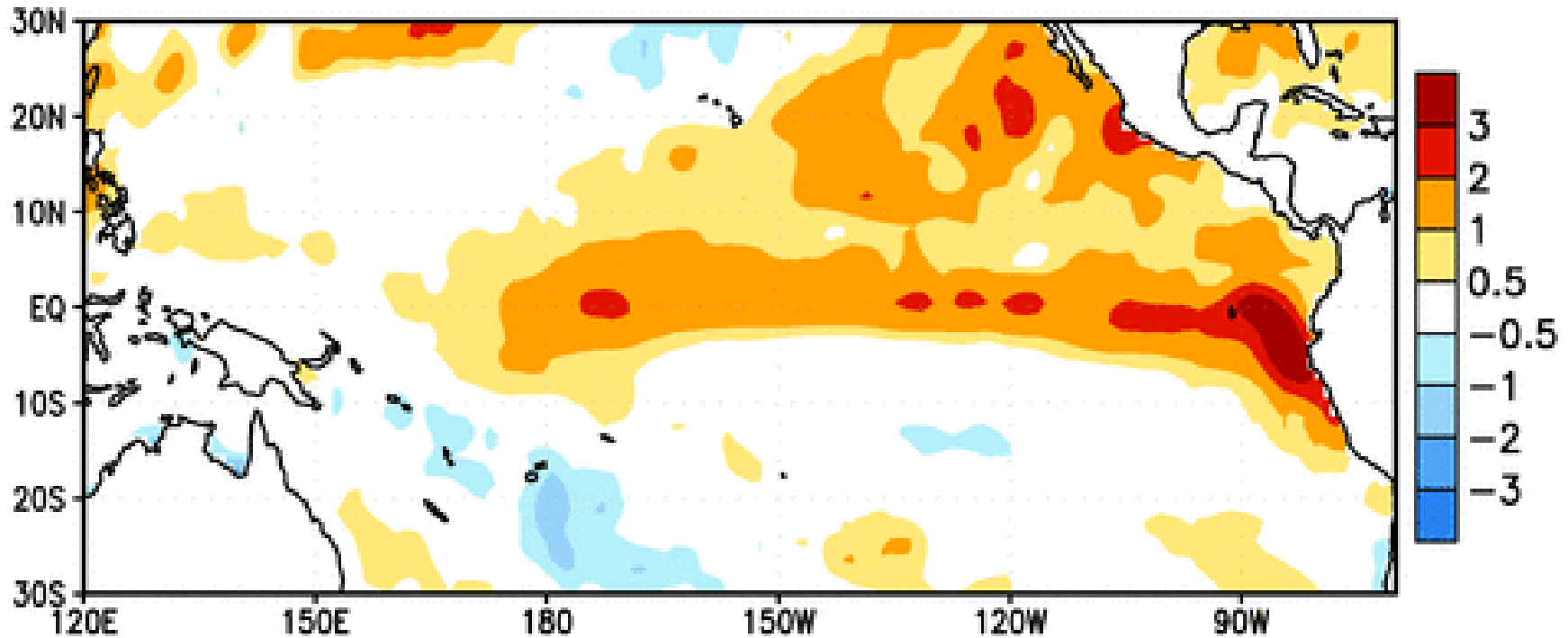
0 20 40 60 80 100
Miles

Updated: 5/27/2015 12:38 PM
Projection: Oregon Lambert, NAD 83

El Nino Status as of June 1st 2015:

ENSO Status: El Nino Advisory in effect

Week centered on 27 MAY 2015
SST Anomalies (°C)



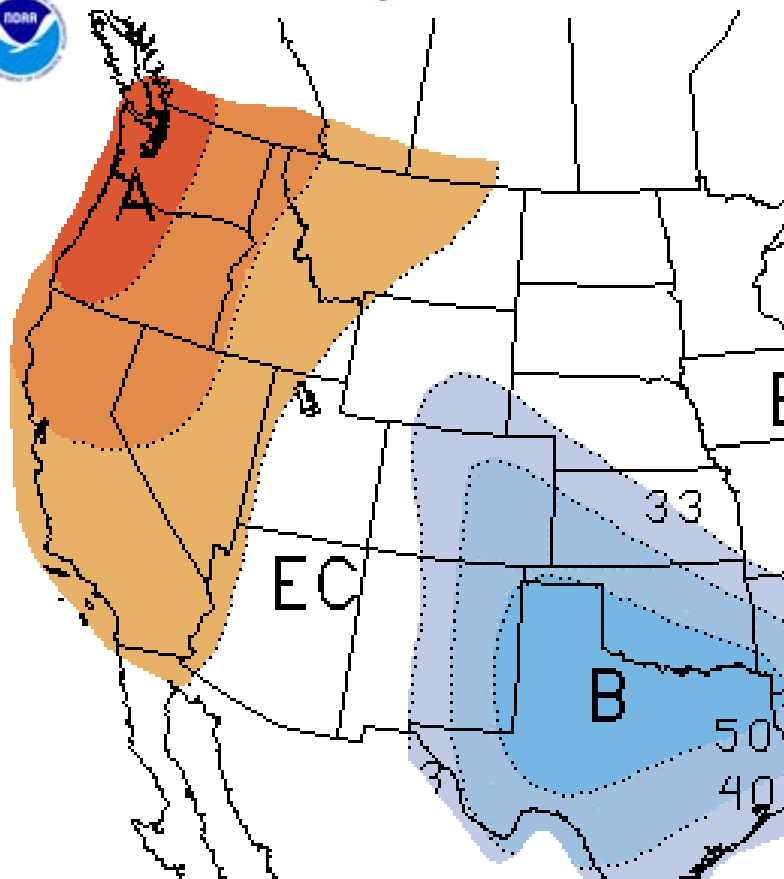
“There is an approximately 90% chance that El Niño will continue through Northern Hemisphere summer 2015, and a greater than 80% chance it will last through 2015.”

-from May14th 2015 El Nino Diagnostic Discussion

Monthly Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

June 2015

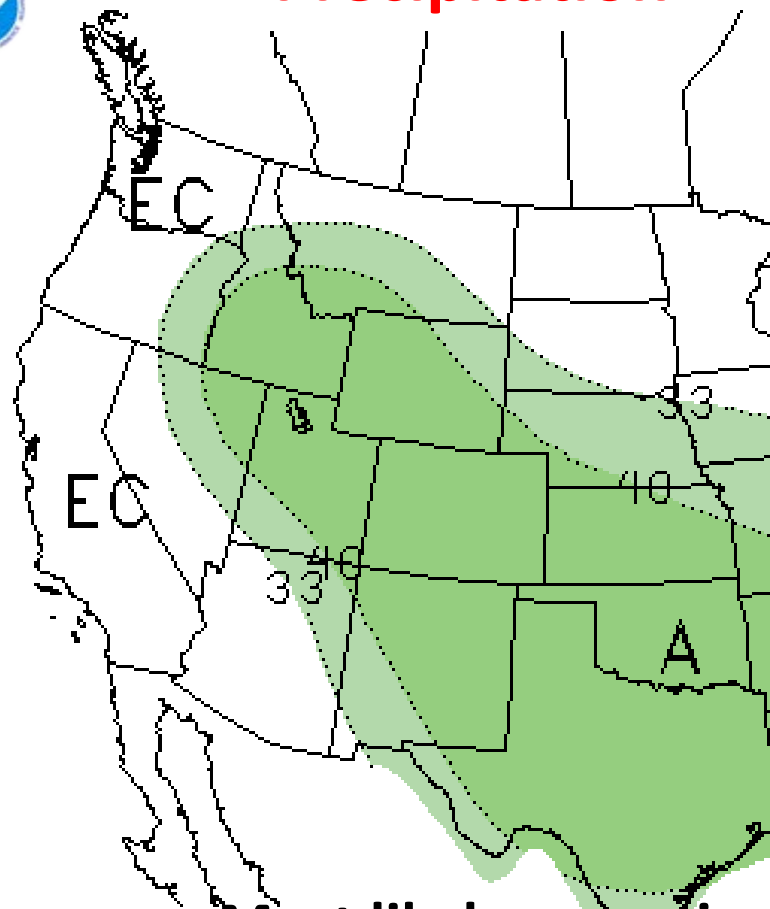
Temperature



Most likely scenario:

Unusually warm temperatures remain over much of the far west

Precipitation



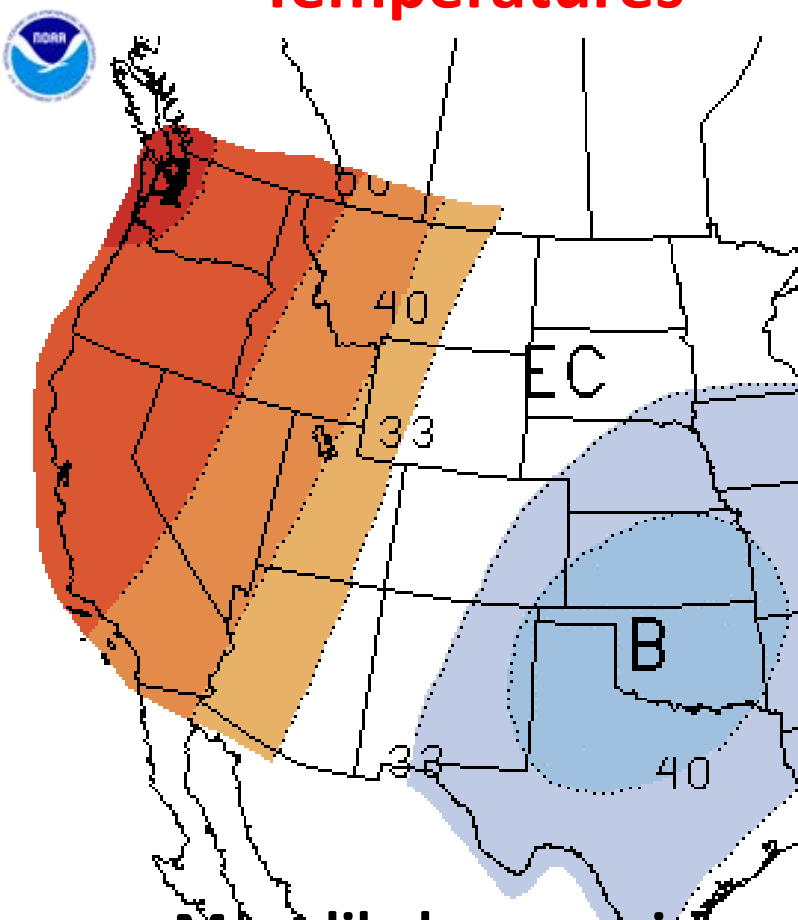
Most likely scenario:

No clear trend west side. East side wetter than usual due to thunderstorms

Seasonal Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

July through September 2015

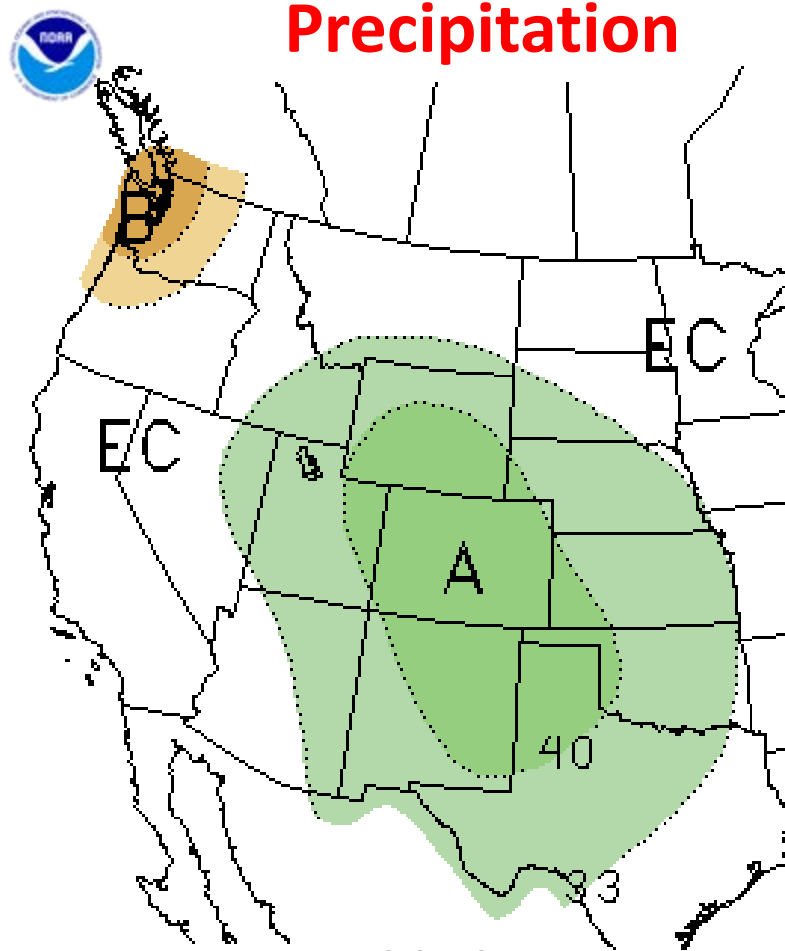
Temperatures



Most likely scenario:

Unusually warm temperatures continue

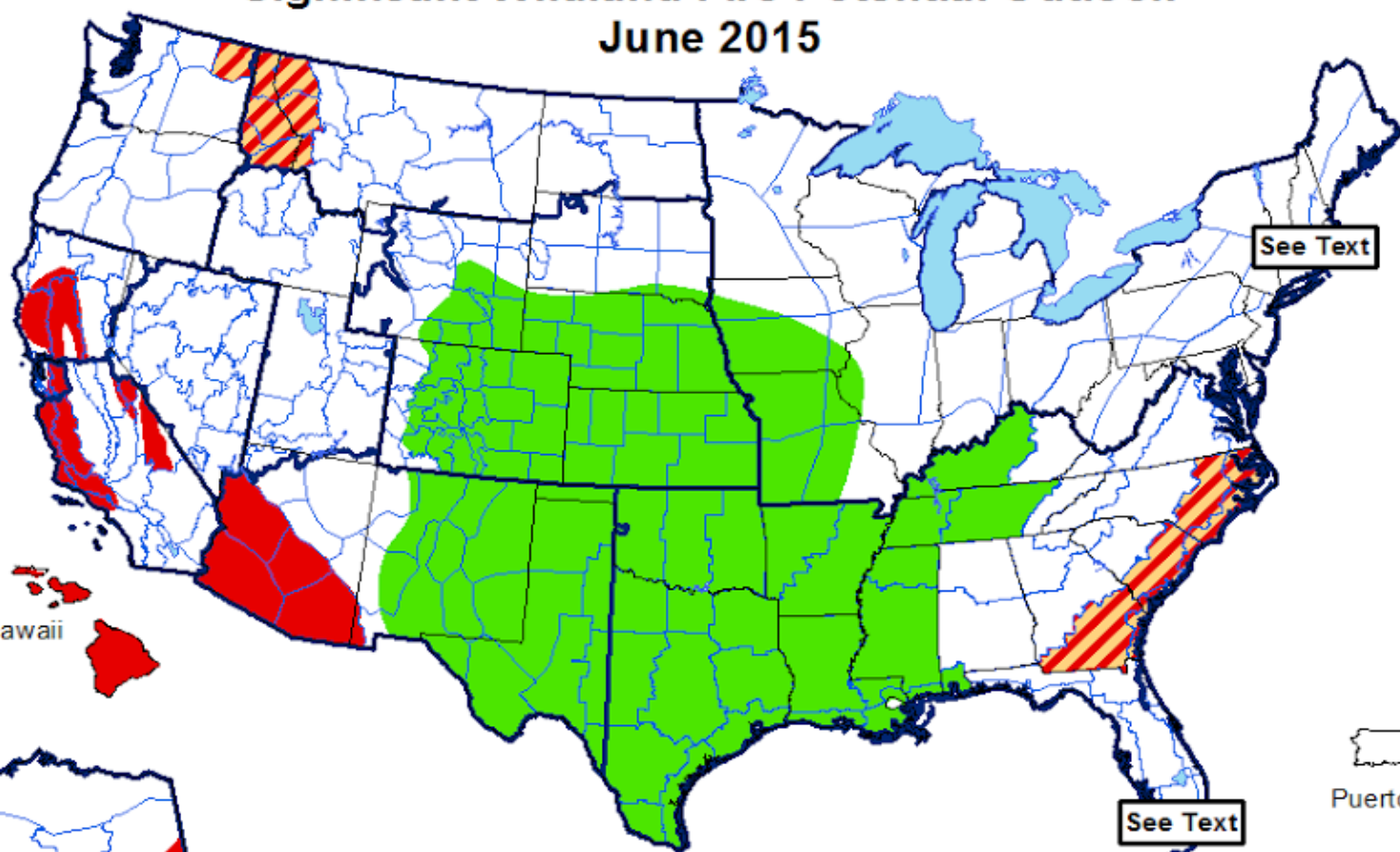
Precipitation



Most likely scenario:

Dry western Washington but no clear signal elsewhere

Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook June 2015



Significant Wildland Fire Potential

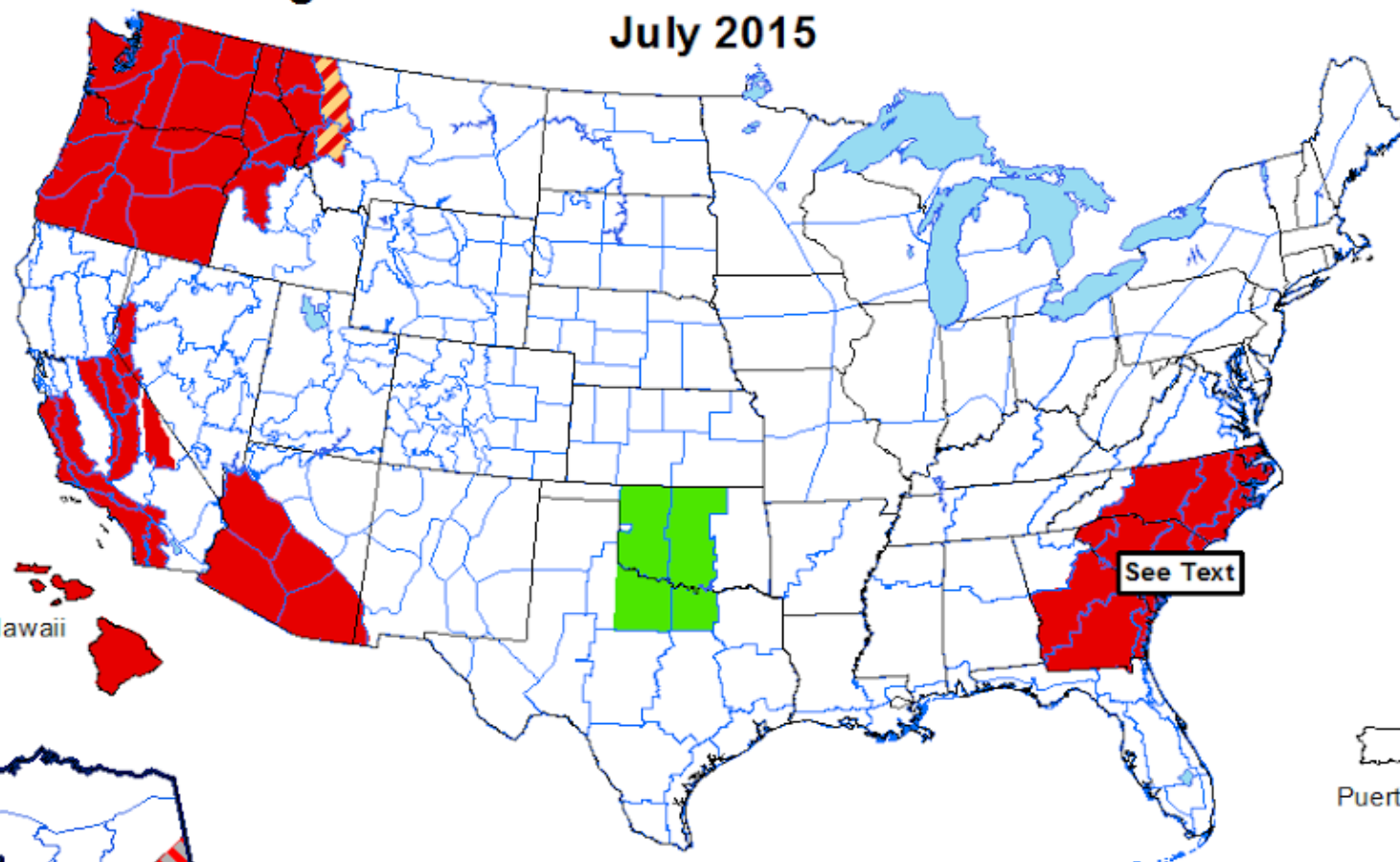
	Above Normal		Increasing to Above Normal
	Below Normal		Decreasing to Below Normal
	Normal		Returning to Normal
	Geographic Area Boundary		Predictive Services Area Boundary

Above normal significant wildland fire potential indicates a higher than usual likelihood that wildland fires will occur and/or become significant events. Wildland fires are still expected to occur during forecasted normal conditions as would usually be expected during the outlook period. Significant wildland fires are still possible but less likely than usual during forecasted below normal periods.



Map produced by
Predictive Services,
National Interagency
Coordination Center
Boise, Idaho
Issued June 1, 2015
Next issuance July 1, 2015

Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook July 2015



Significant Wildland Fire Potential

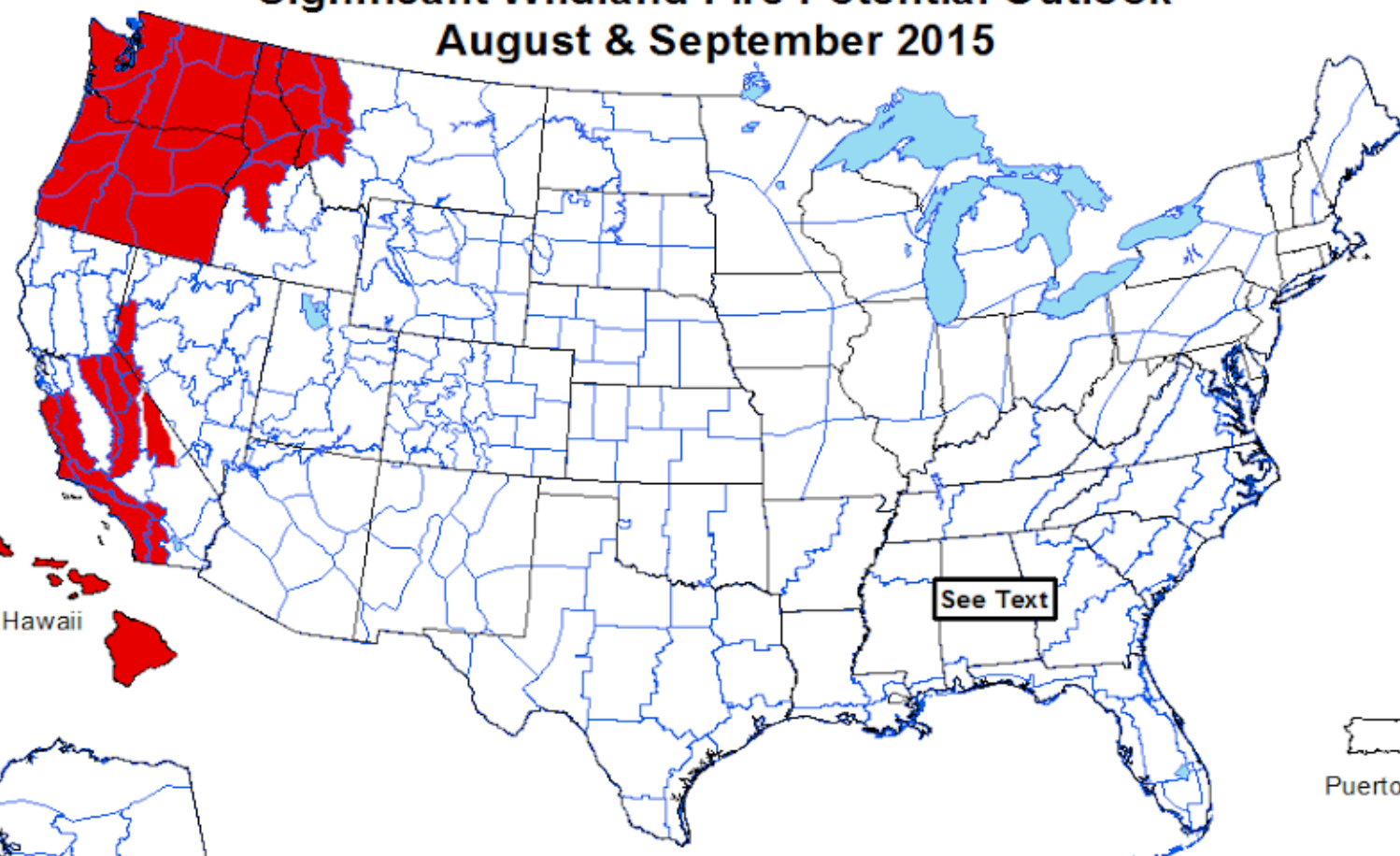
	Above Normal		Increasing to Above Normal
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Map produced by
Predictive Services,
National Interagency
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Boise, Idaho
Issued June 1, 2015
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Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook August & September 2015



Significant Wildland Fire Potential



Above normal significant wildland fire potential indicates a higher than usual likelihood that wildland fires will occur and/or become significant events. Wildland fires are still expected to occur during forecasted normal conditions as would usually be expected during the outlook period. Significant wildland fires are still possible but less likely than usual during forecasted below normal periods.

Puerto Rico

Alaska



Map produced by
Predictive Services,
National Interagency
Coordination Center
Boise, Idaho
Issued June 1, 2015
Next issuance July 1, 2015

NWCC Predictive Services outlook :

June 2015

Due to wet weather from thunderstorms in May, 1000 hr fuel moistures east of the Cascades trended significantly upwards from very low values observed at the end of April. The exception is northeastern Washington (PSA NW09) where 1000 hour fuel moisture values remained significantly below average at the end of May.

NWCC Predictive Services outlook :

June 2015

From the Cascade Crest westward, 1000 hr fuel moisture trends not fare as well during May. As of May 31st, PSAs NW1 through 4 continue to report 1000 hour fuel moistures significantly drier than average for this time of year.

NWCC Predictive Services outlook :

June 2015

The combination of wet thunderstorms expected in June and the relief from very dry fuel moistures in early May has moderated fire danger to some extent. As a result, significant fire potential in June is not expected to be unusually high across the Northwest Geographic Area except in northeast Washington.

NWCC Predictive Services outlook :

July through September of 2015

The risk of large, costly fires (mainly from lightning) is expected to increase dramatically in July and continue into August as temperatures increase with summer heat in fire season. Above average risk for large, costly fires is expected across the entire northwest geographic area due to drought, warm temperatures and low snowpack. Even typical amounts of lightning in July and August could prove problematic.

Next Outlook:
July 1st 2015